Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 06096 211743Z ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-10 AID-05 CA-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 HEW-04 $/049~\mathrm{W}$

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P 211626Z APR 78 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO AMEMBASSY MBABANE PRIORITY INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8728

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, UNHCR, WZ

SUBJECT: UNHCR REFUGEE MESSAGE

FOLLOWING IS MESSAGE FROM UNHCR/GENEVA FOR UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE SABITI IN MBABANE:

OUOTE HCR/40

REYOUR 40 AND 41 ON LATEST DEVELOPMENTS YOUR AREA.
ANXIOUSLY AWAITING REPORT YDUR INTERVIEW OF INDIVIDUALS
CONCERNED. MEANTIME WOULD BE INTERESTED TO NOTE THAT YOUR
41 PARA 1 AND 2 WERE ALSO CONFIRMED BY INDEPENDENT SOURCES.
THIS INDEED CORROBORATES YOUR 41 PARA 3.

FYI MATTER RAISED ON 18 APRIL BETWEEN PETERS AND SIBEKO, OCCASION LATTER'S STOP OVER GENEVA ON WAY TO LONDON WITH FOLLOWING COMMENTS.

AAA. ALTHOUGH PROBLEMS INDEED EXISTED THAT MADE IT NECESSARY FOR TWO TOP PAC OFFICIALS TO PROCEED TO SWAZILAND FOR TALKS WITH AUTHORITIES RECENT EVENTS ALLEGEDLY CAME AS A SURPRISE TO PAC LEADERSHIP AS SOME PROGRESS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED TO DISPEL MISUNDERSTANDING AND IRON OUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DIFFERENCES.

BBB. IN VIEW NEW DEVELOPMENTS SIBEKO UNDERTOOK TO RETURN ASAP HOPEFULLY NEXT WEEK FOR FRESH DISCUSSIONS WITH AUTHORITIES WITH A VIEW TO SECURING RELEASE ALL CONCERNED ESPECIALLY STUDENTS WHOM HE CONSIDERED INNOCENT. PARA.

WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO NON STUDENT DETAINEES SIBEKO ADMITTED THAT CONSIDERING SERIOUSNESS ISSUE INVOLVED PAC MAY HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO USE ITS GOOD OFFICES TO HAVE THEM RESETTLED IN OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES AS IT APPEARS MOST UNLIKELY THAT SWAZI GOVERNMENT WILL ALLOW THEM TO STAY. HE HOWEVER EXCLUDED TANZANIA AS A POSSIBLE RESETTLEMENT COUNTRY FOR OBVIOUS REASONS CONNECTED WITH PAC'S OWN STATUS TANZANIA. IN HIS OPINION PERSONS CONCERNED MAY BE REQUESTED TO REFRAIN FROM ANY FURTHER POLITICAL ACTIVITIES BY AUTHORITIES THEIR POTENTIAL COUNTRIES OF RESETTLEMENT. PARA.

THOUGH ABOVE MAY SUGGEST THAT PAC OFFICIAL WAS NOT TOTALLY UNAWARE SWAZI GOVERNMENTS INTENTION AS FIRST INDICATED, WE NOTE THAT PAC IS PREPARED TO USE ITS INFLUENCE WITH AUTHORITIES TO SECURE RELEASE DETAINEES AND TO HELP IN RESETTLING THEM THIRD AFRICAN COUNTRIES. PARA.

IN OUR OPINION RECENT EVENTS SHOULD BE VIEWED AGAINS CURRENT INTERNAL DIFFERENCES WITHIN PAC. ANY INITIATIVE ON OUR PART SHOULD THEREFORE BE EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS TO AVOID SUCH AN EASY ACCUSATION AS UNWELCOME INTERFERENCE IN PAC INTERNAL POLITICS. PENDING A MORE CLEAR PICTURE OF THE SITUATION WHICH IS LIKELY TO ARISE FROM YOUR CURRENT INTERVIEWS AND FORTHCOMING DISCUSSIONS WITH PAC LEADERSHIP AND SWAZI GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AT APPROPRIATE LEVELS, SUGGEST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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YOU FIRST CONCENTRATE ON STUDENT CASES (OUR CABLE NO 1100 REFERS). PARA.

WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS KNOWN FROM THIS END. GRATEFUL ANY FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE YOUR END ENABLE US ASSESS SITUATION FURTHER. (UNHCR/GENEVA). END QUOTE.

VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: REFUGEES, REPORTS, VISITS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA06096
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D780171-0395 Format: TEL From: GENEVA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Expiration:

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780432/aaaabasa.tel Line Count: 102

Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bf21efa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION HA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Chamiler indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PARAMARIBO 78
Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 29 apr 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier: Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2895685 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: UNHCR REFUGEE MESSAGE FOLLOWING IS MESSAGE FROM UNHCR/GENEVA FOR UNHCR REPRESEN- TATIVE SABITI IN

MBABANE
TAGS: SREF, WZ, UNHCR
To: MBABANE

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bf21efa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released **US** Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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